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An examination of the flow of paper through the Indiana State Legislature and strategies for usage reduction

Report to the Legislative Council Data Processing Subcommittee

Monday, November 14, 2011

Jonathan Blake Huer, MFA – Director of Emerging Technologies
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What we...

...were asked to do.

...did.

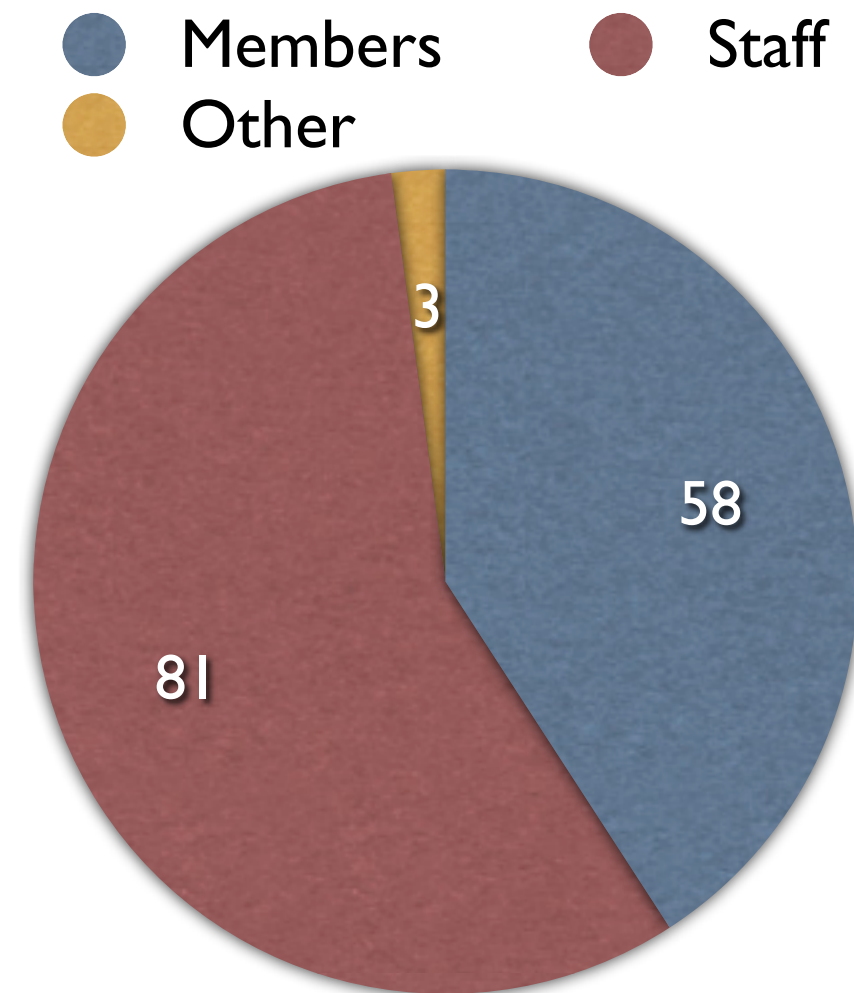
...found.

...recommend.

How could technology reduce paper usage in the Legislature?

What we did

- 25 interviews
- Technology use survey



Survey Respondents

Technology

Why do you print?

Why do you print?

- Compare and contrast two documents
- Facilitate writing notes
- Adhere to chamber requirements
- Because of trust and/or habit

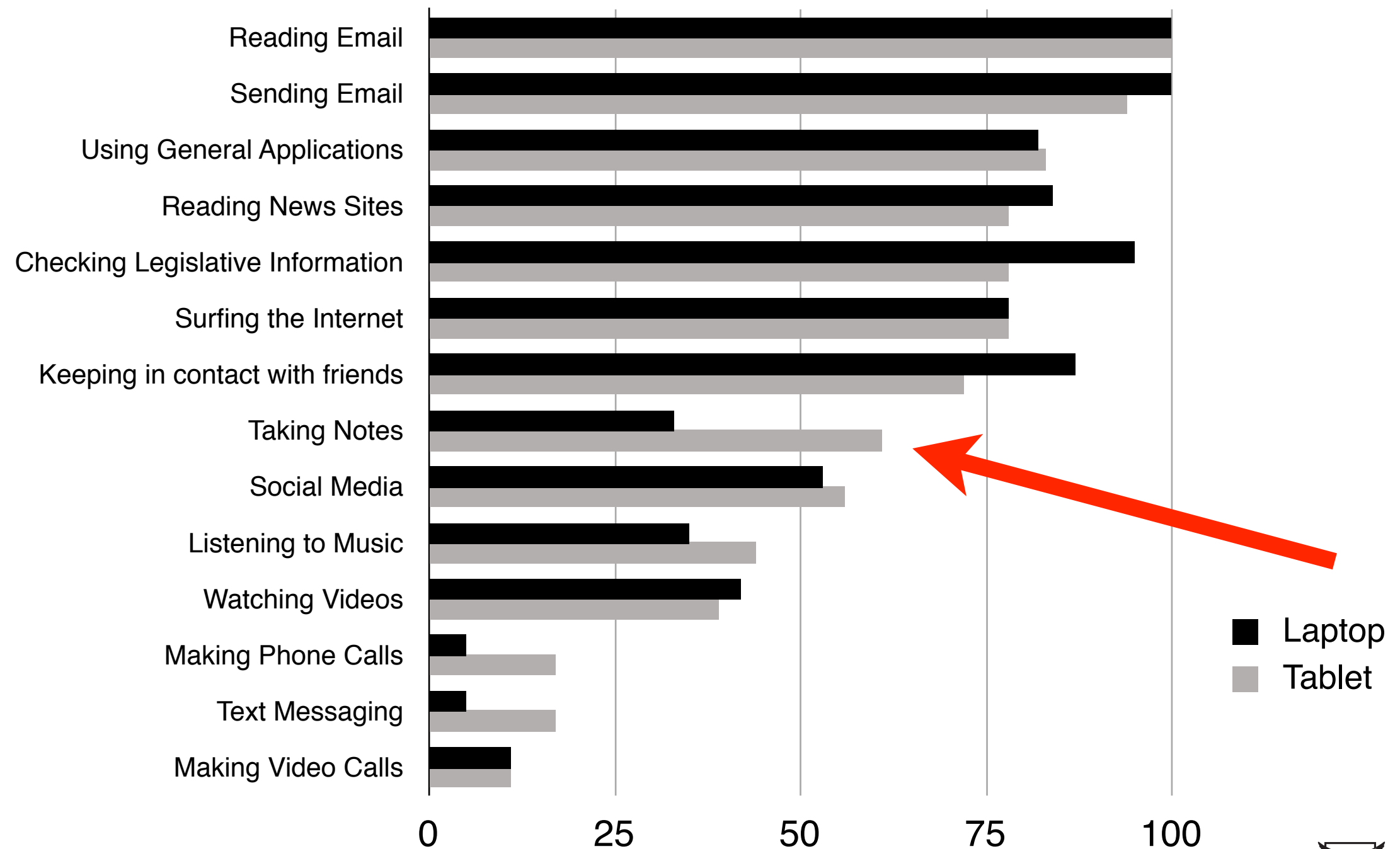
1. Compare and contrast



1. Compare and contrast



2. Facilitate writing notes



3. Adhere to chamber requirements

THE LEGISLATIVE PAPERFLOW

This flowchart documents our understanding of a bill's progression through first the House and then the Senate's respective legislative processes. All numbers in white boxes represent the printed page totals required for that individual bill along each step of the process, **assuming no reprints, except where noted**. These numbers are based on median page lengths determined from the 117th General Assembly.

Max Page Length: **HB 1001** (Printed Front-and-Back)

House Bill Introduced: 124 pages Printed: 155 copies	9,610	Appropriations Committee Introduced: 160 pages Printed: 39 copies	3,120
House Amendments Introduced: 783 pages Printed: 125 copies	48,938	Conference Committee Introduced: 270 pages Printed: 4 copies	540
Ways and Means Introduced: 124 pages Printed: 75 copies	4,650	Conference Com. Report Introduced: 273 pages Printed: 185 copies	25,253
Senate Bill Introduced: 160 pages Printed: 133 copies	10,640	Engrossed Bill Introduced: 294 pages Printed: 170 copies	24,990
Senate Amendments Introduced: 178 pages Printed: 60 copies	5,340	TOTAL 133,080 pages, 1,331 lbs 266 reams, 16 trees	

Median Page Lengths

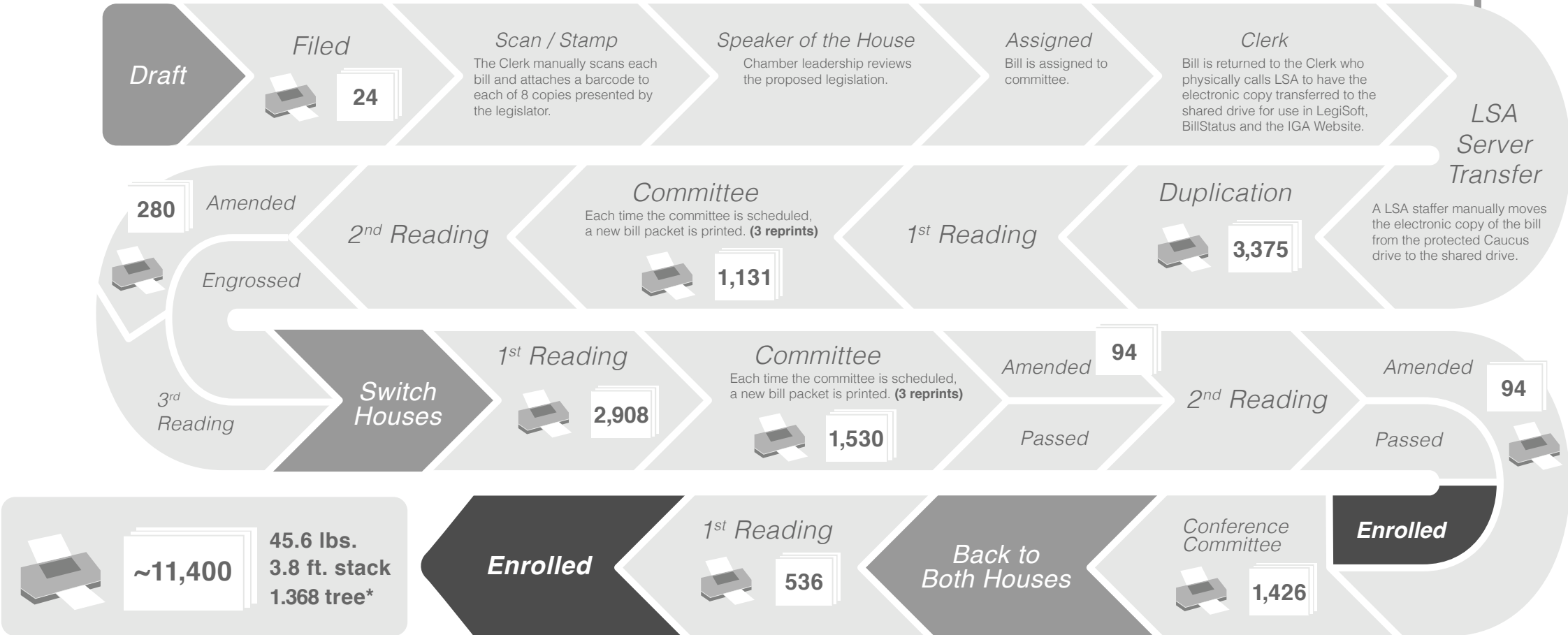
	House			Senate		
	Documents	Pages	Median (Pages)	Documents	Pages	Median (Pages)
Bills	601	2,015	3.35	608	1,662	2.73
Amendments	1,246	2,794	2.24	694	2,794	1.57
Conference Committee Reports	53	1,354	17.49	53	409	7.71

Measures

Ream of Paper **500 pages, 2 lbs., 2 in., or 6% of one tree***

Access Indiana

Bill information placed on IGA website. (30 to 60 minute delay)



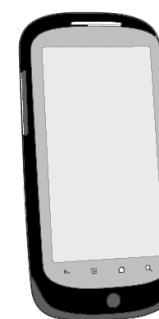
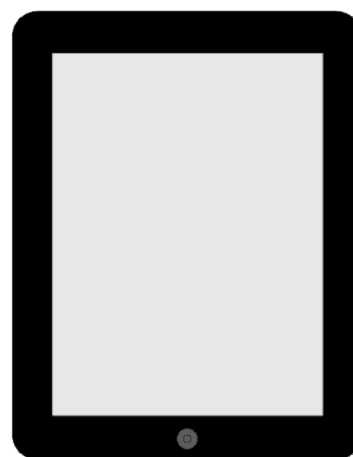
* Source: conservatree.org; based on non-recycled paper

Printing estimates based on averages of: 3.35 (H) & 2.27 (S) pages per bill; 13 (H) & 10 (S) members per committee; 29 (H) & 51.5 (S) bills per committee per session

Average bill

- ~11,400 pages printed
- 45.6 lbs
- 1.368 trees
- 1 copy of each document
~ 250 lbs per session

4. Because of trust and habit





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Why do you print?

- Compare and contrast two documents
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Our recommendations

- Technology
 - *Dual monitors for staff*
 - *Tablets as an option for members*
- Infrastructure
 - *Create a robust, unified, device-agnostic, modern, online infrastructure*
 - *Utilize an off-the-shelf solution to improve document handling, production and distribution.*

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online infrastructure.

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